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To the Medical Profession.

Cincinnati has long been a recognized source of supply for Pharmaceutical and chemical products; and for all material used in a Physician's practice. Probably no one fact has contributed more to make it a central distributing point than the presence in our midst of the extensive manufacturing interest—"The WM. S. MERRELL CHEMICAL CO."—so well and favorably known in past years under the firm name of Wm. S. Merrell & Co.

Associated with leading Manufacturing Chemists of the East, in the great display of Chemical and Pharmaceutical Preparations at St. Paul, Minnesota, in June last; (second only in size and importance to the Centennial Exhibit at Philadelphia,) the WM. S. MERRELL CHEMICAL CO. sustained its reputation as an enterprising and progressive concern, whose Preparations merit the confidence and support of all Physicians who appreciate a high standard of quality.

Read the following extract from an article which appeared in the *Pioneer Press*, descriptive of the Exhibit at St. Paul.

"MEDICAL EXHIBIT."

The new building adjacent to Market Hall, on St. Peter street, bears the above modest legend. Inside this structure is to be seen one of the most costly and magnificent displays of Medicines and Chemicals ever collected under one roof in this or any other country. Firms of Manufacturing Chemists who make the bulk of all the medicines used in legitimate practice in the United States are there represented.

The only Western firm of Manufacturing Chemists exhibiting a varied and costly display of Medicinal Preparations, is the WM. S. MERRELL CHEMICAL CO. *of Cincinnati;* one of the oldest and best known houses in America. Their work shows a greater variety, perhaps, than any other in the building; and embraces nearly all the Salts, Alkaloids, Resinoids, Fluid Extracts, Homœopathic and German Tinctures, (the latter their own importation,) Wines, Syrups, Elixirs, Sugar and Gelatine Coated Pills, etc., used by the Medical Profession. An absolutely Pure Crystal of Salicylic Acid, from Oil of Wintergreen, is one of the most noted articles on exhibition. They also exhibit samples of Green Plants preserved in Alcohol in the manner preserved by them for manufacturing purposes.

The above house (WM. S. MERRELL CHEMICAL CO.) offers to send its Pamphlet Price Current, and other printed matter, by mail, free, to any Physician or Druggist who makes application.

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II.

NEW REMEDIES.

EXPECTORANTS.

PARKE, DAVIS & CO.,

Manufacturing Chemists,

DETROIT, MICH.,

Respectfully solicit the attention of practitioners of medicine to their preparations of the following drugs, premising their statement of the claims made for them by mention of the fact that such claims are, in each instance, the legitimate deductions from reports in their possession (and copies of which will be gladly furnished gratis on application) of results following the use of the drugs in the practice of competent and conscientious physicians:

YERBA SANTA.

(Eriodyction Californicum.)

Although this indigenous plant has been before the profession for several years, it is to be feared that it is not as fully appreciated as its inherent merits demand. The cause of this is the fact that it has not been accorded the thorough trial to which an agent possessing the properties claimed for it, is entitled. It is a demulcent of superior quality, and while exercising a favorable influence over mucous membranes wherever situated, has a peculiar influence over that of the respiratory passages. The testimony in support of this statement is too voluminous for introduction at this place, but will be cheerfully furnished on application to us. We prepare a fluid and a solid extract.

DOSE—FLUID EXTRACT YERBA SANTA (P., D. & CO.), ʒ ss to ʒ j.

SOLID EXTRACT YERBA SANTA (P., D. & CO.), gr. iij to gr. x.

DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

QUEBRACHO.

(Aspidosperma Quebracho.)

Although of comparatively recent introduction Quebracho came to us so endorsed by the results of physiological and clinical experience as to place it at once in a place among the more reliable drugs. These experiments have been copious and convincing, fixing quebracho as an agent possessing a peculiar property in relieving dyspnœa due to whatever cause, the cyanotic hue of lips and surface disappearing under its use and the distress of the patient being distinctly ameliorated.

Quebracho supplies, in its marked properties, a pressing want, especially in the treatment of pneumonia or other affections of the lungs attended by dyspnœa. In such self-limited affections the desideratum is to sustain the patient until the disease shall have run its course, and many have succumbed because of the want of an agent which should do what quebracho is claimed to do. That it is a remedy of indispensable value in acute pulmonary inflammations is attested by abundance of testimony in our possessions, and which will be supplied gratuitously, collated from both private and hospital practice.

DOSE—FLUID EXTRACT OF QUEBRACHO (P. D. & CO.), 20 MINIMS TO A FLUIDRACHM.

LIPPIA MEXICANA.

An agreeable anodyne and demulcent expectorant, introduced by us to the profession of this country on the authority of Dr. A. H. Saxton, of Baltimore, Md. Dr. Saxton received a sample of the plant for trial from a gentleman (a chemist by profession), who, while traveling in Mexico in 1877, had observed its characteristic properties from its use among the natives. The botanical position of the plant was fixed by Dr. Vasey of the Agricultural Department at Washington. The reports following its use by others fully corroborate that originally made by Dr. Saxton, and have established Lippia Mexicana as a remedy of great value in the relief of distressing cough whether due to acute inflammation or to more chronic pulmonary lesions, as in phthisis, chronic bronchitis, etc.

DOSE—FLUID EXTRACT LIPPIA MEXICANA (P. D. & CO.), 30 MINIMS TO A FLUIDRACHM.

CHEKEN.

(Myrtus Chekan.)

This plant, indigenous to Chili, was introduced to the English profession by Dr. William Murrell, the famous English therapeutist and collaborator of Ringer, as a remedy for the "Winter Cough" of elderly people. Dr. Murrell's favorable reports have been endorsed by the experience of many practitioners of this country, and Cheken is entitled to a prominent place on the list of remedies for chronic bronchial affections of an inflammatory or catarrhal nature. Dr. Dessauer, of the German Hospital of Valparaiso, speaks in high terms of it as a remedy also when the discharge is of a purulent nature. It is a valuable adjuvant in cough mixtures, its influence being alterative and demulcent.

We solicit for this new drug a thorough trial in the catarrhal affections peculiar to this season, confident as we are that it will prove a valuable expectorant.

DOSE—FLUID EXTRACT CHEKEN (P., D. & CO.), 1 TO 2 FLUIDRACHMS.

New York, 60 Maiden Lane and 21 Liberty St.

PARKE, DAVIS & CO., MANUFACTURING CHEMISTS.

III.

Antiseptics

LISTERINE

THE favorable reception of *LISTERINE* by the Medical Profession throughout the United States is full evidence that its formulation comprehended advanced theories suggesting a SAFE antiseptic for INTERNAL administration, yet equally efficient for external use, and in a form for immediate demand.

The combination of agents, as presented by us, produces a remedy of peculiar antiseptic property, alike adapted to Surgery, Obstetrics, Gynecology, Laryngology, and all Zymotic or Febrile diseases, the best clinical tsstimony having established its safety internally, even in large doses, whilst its capability of dilution to varied strengths, for local administration, demonstrates its power and scope.

Quality of ingredients, uniformity in preparation, and STANDARD ANTISEPTIC STRENGTH, are advantages we assure to the profession through the designation "*LISTERINE*," and the maintenance of these essential requirements are guaranteed, not only by a sense of professional obligation, but our own commercial well-being.

FORMULA — LISTERINE is the *essential antiseptic* constituent of Thyme, Eucalyptus, Baptisia, Gaultheria, and Mentha Arvensis in combination. Each *fluid drachm* also contains *two* grains of *refined* and *purified* Benzo-boracic Acid.

DOSE—One teaspoonful *three* or *more* times a day (as indicated). As a local application to ulcers, wounds and abscesses, or as a gargle, mouth-wash, inhalant or injection, it can be used *ad libitum*, diluted as desired.

The therapeutic value of LISTERINE has been thoroughly established by the most conservative and scientific of the profession.

The following Reprints sent, postpaid, upon request:

A LABORATORY STUDY OF LISTERINE:

(Being a tabular exhibit of its action upon fermentative processes),

By **Frank M. Deems, M. D., Ph. D.,**
Late of University of New York.

OTITIS MEDIA PURULENTA:

By **Prof. Dudley S. Reynolds, M. D.,**
Louisville, Ky.

THE BEST METHODS OF TREATING OPERATIVE WOUNDS:

By **Henry O. Marcy, A. M., M. D.,**
Pres. American Academy of Medicine,
Boston, Mass.

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DRUGS, MEDICINES, CHEMICALS,
BARKS, HERBS, ROOTS,

In crude form, in powders, or crushed for percolating. Everything pure, fresh and thoroughly reliable. Our stock embraces the entire list of remedies known to the market. We manufacture all classes of

RESINOIDS, ALKALOIDS, FLUID EXTRACTS,
SOLID EXTRACTS, SYRUPS, TINCTURES, OINTMENTS,

And warrant all our preparations to be of the highest standard. Particular attention paid to the orders of Physicians; promptness, accuracy and full satisfaction guaranteed.

SHOP FURNITURE, INSTRUMENTS and MEDICAL BOOKS at Lowest Prices.

Full Lines of GELATINE and SUGAR-COATED PILLS Always in Stock.

FRESH VACCINE VIRUS Constantly on Hand.

Agents for AMERICAN GLYCERINE WORKS.

YOUR ORDERS ARE RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED.

Wm. S. Merrell Chemical Co.'s

Concentrated Medicines,

—INCLUDING—

ALKALOIDS; SALTS; RESINS and RESINOIDS.

—ORIGINAL MANUFACTURERS.—

These are *proximate principles* of medicinal plants, in form more or less perfect, and as nearly isolated and purified of the non-medicinal elements as the nature of the drug will admit.

The Salts of Berberina, (yellow,) and of Hydrastia, (white); Nitrate Sanguinarina; Podophyllin; Macrotin; all bear a definite relation to the drug, as in the case of Morphia and its Salts; whereas Leptandrin, Caulophyllin, Euonymine, etc., represent the combined medicinal principles of the drug in a very concentrated powdered form. Triturated with Sugar of Milk, or combined with other agents in powder or pill form, this class of medicinal agents is growing in favor with physicians of all schools.

SULPHATE HYDRASTIA (Berberina) *strictly pure, in crystals.*
Physicians should discriminate closely between *this article* and the impure cheaper forms in which the quantity of resinous and extractive matter is so great as to make their use dangerous, especially in the treatment of Chronic Conjunctivitis, Catarrhal Affections of the Bladder, and other delicate conditions in which *irritation must be avoided.*

CITRATE HYDRASTINA—(Hydrastia.)
A Citrate of the White Alkaloid, intensely bitter and very soluble. This is a favorite form with many physicians who favor the White Alkaloid as a remedial agent.

HYDRASTINE—(Principles combined.)
A combination of the White and Yellow Alkaloids, each carefully isolated, purified, and re-combined in their native proportions, as they exist in the root.

HYDRASTIA—*Pure White Alkaloid, in crystals.*
This Alkaloid exists in the root in very small proportions. It is coming into use, however, triturated with Sugar of Milk; and also in combination with Subnitrate Bismuth in the preparation introduced by us as "*Solution Bismuth and Hydrastia.*"

PODOPHYLLIN;—LEPTANDRIN.—
Both well known and universally used, both in this country and in Europe.

EUONYMINE.—
The investigations of Dr. Rutherford, under the auspices of the British Medical Association, have given this remedy an advanced position as a valuable remedy in all diseases having an Hepatic origin.

CAULOPHYLLIN.—
A remedy of frequent and extended use in the treatment of Female Diseases.

CYPRIPEDINE.—
Nervine and Anti-spasmodic, and especially valuable in the treatment of Chorea, Hysteria, Nervous Debility, etc.

DIOSCOREIN.—

An almost indispensable agent in the treatment of Bilious Colic, either alone or in combination with Asclepedin.

OLEO-RESIN IRIDIN.—*From the purple variety of the Iris Versicolor.*—

The most reliable preparation of the Blue Flag. In combination with Podophyllin it is used with excellent results in Dropsy, Primary and Secondary Syphilis, Chronic Hepatic Affections, Rheumatism, Gonorrhea, and in many Female Complaints.

HELONIN.—

As a *Uterine Tonic* this remedy is deserving of an extended use in all diseases peculiar to females; it also possesses *Diuretic* properties of value.

MACROTIN.—

This is the precipitated Resin of the Black Cohosh, with a wider range of medicinal action than almost any other of our indigenous drugs or their preparations. Its special province is as an Emmenagogue, Parturient, Tonic and Anti-Rheumatic.

NITRATE SANGUINARINA—(Introduced by us.)

For extended notes on this preparation send for circular. In *Croup*, Scarlatina, Diptheritis, Pseudo-Membranous Croup, Nitrate Sanguinarina has proved to be almost a specific; not only relieving the inflammation of the fauces, but also dissolving the adventitious formation.

SCUTELLARINE.—

Nervine, Tonic and Anti-spasmodic. This agent occupies an important place in our list of remedies. Recommended in Convulsions, Chorea, Hysteria, Neuralgia, Nervous Debility, etc.

We also manufacture all other remedies of this class in general use. For full list see our Price Current.

The Wm. S. Merrell Chemical Co.

[late Wm. S. Merrell & Co.]

MANUFACTURING CHEMISTS, CINCINNATI.

Tonic.—Laxative.—Antiperiodic.

AROMATIC ELIXIR WAHOO.

[Euonymus Atropurpureus.]

Prepared from Fresh Bark of Root by the

WM. S. MERRELL CHEMICAL CO., CINCINNATI.

Wahoo or Indian Arrow is essentially an American remedy, and in the earlier years of its introduction gained an enviable reputation in the hands of the Eclectic School of Medicine. This favorable opinion was established by the use of *Bark of the Root*, and we may reasonably attribute the lack of interest in the drug during an interim of ten to fifteen years prior to 1880 to the extreme scarcity and high price of the *Root* Bark, and the substitution there-

for of the *Tree* or *Shrub* Bark and the *Small Roots;* all of which possess similar properties, but are much more feeble in action and less reliable, even in increased doses.

Pursuing a course of study of American drugs under the auspices of the British Medical Association, Dr. Rutherford, of London, and his associates, fully sustain and strengthen the favorable opinion of the profession on this side of the Atlantic; and speak in high terms of its value in Chronic Intermittents, (especially when attended with enlarged spleen and dropsy,) Dyspepsia, Torpid Liver, Constipation, Dropsy; and in Pulmonary affections as a tonic to the Nutritive process.

GENERAL PROPERTIES.—Wahoo Bark of Root has a peculiar affinity for the *Liver;* and its specific tendency seems to be *to make bile*, or rather to stimulate the liver to secrete it:—it also stimulates the Nutritive processes, and in many cases improves digestion; especially when combined with a pure bitter tonic, as Hydrastis. It exerts a marked influence in malarial diseases, and deserves the name of *Anti-periodic*, though feebler than Quinine.

The late Prof. Rose, formerly of Cincinnati and afterward of Philadelphia, was an ardent advocate of this remedy in Intermittents, especially during convalescence. His experience seemed to prove it of equal value with the Cinchona-Alkaloids, without the objectionable symptons following the continued use of those agents.

As a *Laxative* and Cathartic, Wahoo, in the combination which we have so successfully introduced in the form of an Elixir, will no doubt fill its most important place. A mild, safe and certain Cathartic is a desideratum with every physician:—this preparation acts by natural methods; increases the secretion of bile; imparts strength to the exhausted parts; and restores normal functional activity. In *habitual Constipation* and in *summer fevers* it is an admirable Cathartic, and equally appropriate.

COMPOSITION.—This Elixir contains the strength of one hundred and sixty grains of *bark of the root* in one fluid ounce of a simple Aromatic Elixir.

DOSE.—As a tonic, one teaspoonful before meals. As a *Cathartic*, one tablespoonful night and morning. For *habitual Constipation*, a dessert spoonful repeated night and morning and continued for several days. These directions should be modified under the advice of the physician.

Sold in One and Five Pound Bottles.

In ordering or prescribing please specify "Wm. S. M. Chem. Co."

This Elixir is kept in stock by all jobbing houses who handle general lines of our preparations.

For Physicians' Use Only.

Aromatic Elixir Licorice,

Or Quinine Elixir.

Many bitter or nauseous medicines are inadmissible in certain conditions, and the want of a permanent and reliable vehicle for their administration is felt by nearly every physician. Aqueous solutions of Licorice Root, and compounds of Dandelion Root have failed to meet the requirements of the profession in this direction. In offering this combination to physicians, we have the careful tests of four years past to guide us in our representations of its value as an *adjuvant* to *disguise* and *cover* the bitter taste of the *Cinchona-Alkaloids; Epsom Salts; Aloes; Colocynth; Cascara Sagrada;* etc., in whatever form administered.

Glycyrrhizin is the sweet or *active principle* of Licorice Root, and forms the basis of this Elixir. This principle is also isolated by us and presented in the form of dark scales similar to scaled preparations of Iron, and may be obtained in this form by those who wish to examine its peculiar characteristics. The expense attending its manufacture, however, prevents its wide sale in this form; but we are enabled to utilize its peculiar virtues *at a moderate cost* by discontinuing the process at a point where the full virtues are preserved and further expense avoided, and adding it to a simple Elixir composed of choice Aromatics in such definite proportions that one ounce will effectually disguise the bitterness of 10 to 12 grains Quinine, or the other Cinchona-Alkaloids; while 15 to 20 grains may be given with the same amount of the Elixir without unpleasant effect.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS FOR USE.—Add a dose of the medicine to be taken to a teaspoonful of the Elixir and swallow at once; following with another spoonful of the Elixir, and the taste of the medicine will not be noticed.

NOTE.—Acid should not be used in taking any of the salts of the Cinchona.

Sold in One and Five Pound Bottles.

When ordering or prescribing please specify the preparations of the

Wm. S. Merrell Chemical Co.

Manufacturing Chemists, CINCINNATI.

The latest edition of our Pamphlet Prices Current, containing full list of all our Preparations, will be sent by mail free upon application.

CINCINNATI MEDICAL RECORDER.

(PUBLISHED BI-WEEKLY.)

Veritas Divina Est.

Vol. LI. CINCINNATI, APRIL 1, 1883. No. 3.

Fatality of Pneumonia.

THE number of prominent men who have died within a few years from pneumonia is astonishing. The fatality of this disease among the people is appalling. Evidently the deaths from it have increased greatly within a few years. It becomes a serious question whether these many deaths are due wholly to the disease itself or largely to the treatment given by the old-school physicians.

Pneumonia used to be treated chiefly by blood-letting, tartar emetic and mercury. A physician who failed to use these measures was denounced as a quack. But Tanner, the eminent English author, says that they "will do much more harm than good"; Diell, the German, declares that pneumonia terminates fatally oftenest on bleeding; and the learned Niemeyer wrote: "I had rather that any one, dear to me, and sick of pneumonia, were in the hands of a homeopath than in the hands of a physician who thinks that he carries the issue of the malady upon the point of his lancet."

Those three measures render pneumonia more fatal than it would be if no treatment at all were given. Why? Because they reduce vitality, paralyze the heart, favor collapse, prostrate the brain and spinal nerve center. Any treatment or any measure that will do either of these four things, stands in the way of recovery from pneumonia, and makes the disease more fatal.

The old-school practice of to-day includes some tartar emetic, and occasionally bleeding. But it relies mainly on the use of veratrum, a most powerful heart paralyzer; of aconite, another heart paralyzer; of chloroform inhalations, which depress the heart and nervous centers; of emetics by apomorphia, which tend to cause collapse of the heart; of opium, which prostrates the brain and spine; of cold effusions, which collapse the outer capillaries and engorge the heart and lungs. Such methods may replace large bleedings and full doses of tartar emetic; but they are merely other ways of striking down the heart in the foolish hope of thereby "reducing the fever," and they can not fail to increase the death-rate from pneumonia. The world needs to be rid of such horrible methods.

A National Physio-Medical Society.

IN the spring of 1879 the Ohio Physio-Medical Society proposed the forming of a National P.-M. Association. It appointed a committee to confer with others, and invited the co-operation of all. It proposed a meeting of delegates from each State, in a ratio to be agreed on; the delegates to be graduates from colleges giving a proper education by a suitable faculty or elderly licentiates of Societies.

The Illinois P.-M. Society concurred in this proposition. Several States took initial steps to form Societies, that they might be represented in a National meeting.

The Indiana Society objected to the plan

of delegates, and wanted a National *mass convention* to "make laws to regulate" this profession. Considerable correspondence was had with the Indiana committee, which was published, and is probably fresh in the minds of most of the profession.

Ohio and Illinois wanted a meeting that would exclude under-graduates, diploma-buyers and abortionists.

Indiana wanted a *mass convention*, that would include everybody who would come. Ohio and Illinois wanted a meeting that would be *representative* of State Societies, so that those who came should have authority to act and to bind their Societies by their action; and where all would stand on a footing of *exact equality*, and no *section* or *State* have the least advantage over any other section or State. Indiana would not agree to this system of representation. Its chairman, Dr. White, did promise in our office to subscribe to this plan and send his signature to it on his return home. Instead, he wrote that his associate on the committee, Dr. Hasty, would not agree; so Dr. White could not sign the paper.

Had it not been for the refusal of Indiana to co-operate with Ohio and Illinois, there could have been a National Physio-Medical organization in 1880. It is a loss of three years.

The Ohio and Illinois Societies have not changed their sentiments nor their fraternal feelings. They have a hand for every *true* man, and a heart that brooks no *trifling* with this cause. Equality between States and sections is a ruling principle with them, and elevation of the profession a vital motive. They will truckle to no man to get his influence, stoop to no chicanery to gain advantages over other Physio-Medicalists. Feeling the need of a National organization, they openly and honorably invited the profession to join them on *just* terms. We can vouch for it that the Ohio and Illinois Societies, existing as *chartered* corporations, have the same kindly feelings to *all* Physio-Medicalists that they had when they sent out a proposition in 1879 and 1880 for a National Convention. And they still believe that no one State owns the whole United States; and that no one locality should be allowed advantages over distant localities in a National meeting. And they still believe that honorable graduates can not fellowship with diploma-buyers, diploma-sellers, and abortionists, without soiling their own fair name beyond recovery. Such classes have already damaged this cause immensely. If our actions and our Societies make such men a part with us, we will sound the death-knell of Physio-Medicalism, for an outraged public will then bury this whole cause in a pit of everlasting infamy.

About a month ago we heard, by way of Oregon, that gentlemen at Indianapolis intended to issue a call for a National Convention of Physio-Medicalists. To-day, March 30th, we get a copy of the circular from Indianapolis, dated March 21st. It proposes a meeting at Indianapolis, on May 2d, of "every true and genuine Physio-Medicalist on the American Continent." Rather short notice for such a large call. If the circular traveled as slowly to others as it did to us, nine days to go 125 miles, a great many would not get it in time to reach Indianapolis till a month or so *after* the meeting. We believe the Indiana State Society is to meet in the same place about the same time.

This circular is signed in the *individual* name of Geo. Hasty, Indianapolis. Nobody else seems to be responsible for it. After preventing a meeting of Physio-Medicalists three years ago, the Doctor now steps forward to tell this "American Continent" exactly how it must "organize a National Association" of Physio-Medicalists. It must be done *his way*, or it shall not be done at all. We always knew George was ambitious.

Well, we will pass by the indignity offered to two chartered State Societies who proposed a National Convention in 1879 and 1880; and if the profession want a meeting at Indianapolis on May 2, 1883, we will go and meet with them. We invite our friends to write us and tell us if they so wish; and then let every man go who can. And we will go with the earnest desire to work heartily with every true man, and against anything and everything that looks toward using a National Convention to bolster up any personal or local interest. And we will go with the distinct purpose of preventing diploma-buyers, diploma-sellers, and abortionists, from "making laws to regulate" Physio Medicalism. Such men are a curse to any medical organization. No doubt they would be very glad to be recognized as the professional equals of men who have earned their diplomas by honest study and who enter upon no criminal practices. But this cause is not an asylum for men who have drawn down upon them public indignation, and who now want honorable men to carry them through that indignation.

We will be glad to meet, at Indianapolis or anywhere else, all "true and genuine Physio-Medicalists"; and to take counsel with them for the honor, the dignity and the advancement of Sanitive Medication. But we will not be a party to selling out this cause to corrupt men, — men whose standing is well known to us, some of whom deserve to be in the penitentiary, and whom we shall not hesitate to point out if we find it necessary. We speak plainly, for we want to be understood. We never yet had "an ax to grind," and never give out any uncertain sound. We want to carry out the words of Prof. Hasty's circular, and "place the cause before the world in its proper light."

THE bicycle is getting to be a common mode of travel among physicians in England.

The Spirit of Progress.

AN ADDRESS BY WM. WESLEY COOK, M. D., P.-M. INSTITUTE, FEBRUARY 27, 1882.

THE Spirit of Progress originates every advancement. It is the stimulus that has led to the discoveries of science, the inventions of mechanics, the solution of social problems, and the great military achievements and governmental changes that fill the pages of history. It has brought the human race from savagery and barbarism to our present position—the highest yet attained in advanced civilization.

The Spirit of Progress has lifted medicine from mysticism and sorcery to a science—the most learned, the most profound, the most beneficial to the people of all the sciences. In ancient days medicine was clouded by the veil of superstition; disease was regarded as a punishment for offenses offered the deities; prayers were administered and penances prescribed in the place of remedies, and the priests were highly paid for incantations and senseless ceremonies in behalf of the sick. These secrets avariciously hoarded by the priests, the absurd theories advocated by the leaders of science, and the union of medical knowledge with ancient systems of philosophy, checked the progress of medicine for centuries, and vestiges of them still remain.

The medical literature of but little more than a hundred years ago makes us wonder at the ignorance and shudder at the cruelty of what was then the "scientific practice of medicine." A method for amputating the arm, as described in an old surgery, well illustrates the mode of performing surgical operations: "Strap the arm upon a table; place a board, sharp chisel just above the part to be amputated and strike its handle with a heavy mallet; the cut surface is to be seared with a red-hot iron or plunged into a vessel of melted tar to

stop the flow of blood." Many authors, in describing medicinal plants, mentioned the stars and planets and phases of the moon that influenced their action on disease. And a once popular household book, written by an English physician and reprinted in America by the renowned Benjamin Franklin, states that bleeding of the nose may be cured by wearing about the neck a dried frog killed in the wane of the moon; and pennyroyal, gathered in full moon and worn in the shoe, will ease the headache. And many still believe in this influence of the moon on various matters —such as the cutting of the hair and sleeping in the moonlight.

The wonderful discoveries and advances in the sciences of chemistry, anatomy and physiology—which constitute the groundwork of medicine—have been too numerous to mention. In surgery the progress has been equally marked; and the use of anæsthetics and the improvements in surgical appliances have multiplied a hundredfold the victories of the surgeon over disease. Lord Byron pined and chafed under a deformity which might have been removed in childhood had the advantages of the present day been then attainable; and the lack of these advantages compelled Sir Walter Scott to endure a similar malformation through life.

The abolition of the lancet was a progressive step in medicine. Fifty years ago bleeding was universally practiced, and was resorted to by the physician whether his patient was suffering from simple headache or toothache, or lingering in the last stages of consumption. And so popular became this fatal delusion that the barber-shops and bleeding-shops were one and the same place, visited in the spring and fall by people of all classes, even in the best of health, to be "blooded." But the enlightened understanding and good sense of the public have placed bleeding among the past crudities of medicine, whose only relic now is the barber's pole seen on every street—the stick representing the staff grasped by the patient during the operation, the blue stripe representing the venous, and the red the arterial blood, and the white stripe being symbolic of the bandage used in tying up the arm.

Many can well remember the nauseous drugs with which they were dosed some thirty years ago, the salivation and venisection they endured, the leeches and burning plasters they bore; and all these things passed through with the only result of prolonging the natural course of disease. No wonder, then, that the public mind seized upon the first means that seemed to offer revolution in medicine. Some eagerly sought the daily lobelia emetics, the scalding red-pepper teas and par-boiling steam baths of the old Thomsonians, and literally went through a process of scouring, inside and out. Others delighted in the sousings and shiverings of the cold shower baths and cold water packs of the hydropaths—and cleanliness does oftentimes make a big improvement in a man. And then there were those who declared all medicines and all systems of cure a humbug; Hygea alone they worshiped, and devoutly they followed in the footsteps of Graham, and fed themselves on his wholesome bread of unbolted flour three times a day. Extremes are the characteristics of all revolutions; and while these different hobbies of water, steam and bran were driven to excess, they, nevertheless contained elements of great good, and were but manifestations of the Spirit of Progress seeking those improvements in hygiene and the administration of remedies that had been so generally adopted by the profession and so highly appreciated by the people. The kernel of truth is ever destined to live; the cumbersome shell of absurdity falls to the ground and is lost.

The history of medicine is one of continual advancement, characterized by the Spirit of Progress that inspired such men

as Hunter, Harvey, Jenner and scores of others in their researches and discoveries. And so rapidly is the science of medicine advancing in this present age of marvelous revelation, that the eminent Roberts Bartholow but predicted what is fast becoming apparent to all when he said that "in the progress of discovery, the doctrines at present received unreservedly may be entirely overthrown, and very different views be substituted."

We can judge of the future only by the past. Wonderful as have been the discoveries in all branches of medical science, much still remains for investigation. Problems may be solved that will lead us into paths as yet undreamed of, and reveal to us facts now far beyond our conception. Mystery and superstition no longer hamper us. Bigotry and dogmatism are rejected. Advanced civilization, free thought, and free action foster the Spirit of Progress that will reveal to us the possibilities of the future. The "Fountain of Youth" and the "Elixir of Life" are no longer sought for; but, guided by reason, by education and by the laws of nature, we seek the preservation of health, the mastery over disease and the prolonging of human existence. Empiricism, speculation and blind experiment are fast being swept away. Higher studies in pathology and therapeutics are making the application of remedies exact and definite. The death-rate is decreasing, the standard of health is advancing, and human happiness is being enhanced; and universally is being recognized the fact that medicine, like all other sciences, is founded upon the unerring and everlasting laws of nature, whose methods can not be substituted, whose doctrines can not be overthrown.

In Ontario, Canada, there is one doctor to every 1,125 inhabitants—so it appears from the last Medical Register.

Convallaria Majalis—Lily of the Valley.

We take great interest in noting all new agents offered to the profession, and watching the reports on their action. They are not all good, and do not all stand the test of time; hence whatever is new should be examined carefully and judged of with discrimination. Some of them are of inestimable value.

One of the latest introductions is the lily of the valley—convallaria majalis. It is prepared and offered by the well-known house of Parke, Davis & Co., who have been instrumental in bringing so many new articles to the attention of the profession. The fluid extract of the flowers, as prepared by them, has been under experimental observation in the clinics at Roosevelt Hospital, New York; and the results are furnished by Dr. H. L. Taylor, and published in the New York *Medical Record*. The dose ranged from five drops three times a day, to twenty drops every four hours. In two cases drachm doses were given three times a day. The Doctor states that no toxic symptoms were observed in any case.

The article is employed for its alleged power to sustain the strength of the heart, for which it is said to be better than digitalis. The experiments reported were six of Bright's disease where the circulation seemed at fault; five of deficient circulation from organic heart disease; two of heart failure from pneumonia in old people; five of heart failure in typhoid fever; and two of obstructed circulation from pulmonary conditions in emphysema and bronchitis. The variety of cases certainly offered a good field for observation. In some of them the convallaria was discontinued in favor of digitalis, nitro-glycerine, whisky, etc., so the results observed were not due to any one agent; and sometimes the nicest results seemed to follow a dis-

continuance of all medication, and a reliance upon rest and milk diet.

After detailing the cases, Dr. Taylor makes this brief summary of results: Of the six cases of renal disease, three improved decidedly while taking the drug, and in three little benefit could be observed. Four of the five cardiac cases improved; one got much worse. Four of the five typhoid fever cases died; and it is hard to say whether the convallaria had any good effect or not on them, or in the one that recovered. In the two cases of bronchitis and emphysema, the results were doubtful. In four out of the total cases observed, he is not sure that the convallaria had any share in producing the good results; and in at least one case he thinks the benefit is to be attributed to the diet and rest. Taken as a whole, he thinks the drug promises to prove a reliable heart tonic.

We feel disposed to ask attention to the loss of four out of five cases of typhoid fever. It is a marvellous death-rate. The Doctor makes his total report on these cases in the following brief paragraph: "In five cases of heart failure from typhoid fever, convallaria (with whisky) was tried. It was usually run up to four drops every hour, or two drops every half-hour. It was sometimes thought that the pulse improved somewhat after the administration of the drug. The patients all died in one to three days, except the first, where the heart failure was due to intestinal hemorrhage. She recovered."

In another number of the N. Y. *Medical Record*, Dr. E. P. Hurd, Newburyport, Mass., refers to Dr. Taylor's report and adds some of his own experiments with convallaria on animals. He says: "It is proved that convallaria is a powerful toxic agent, not inferior to digitalis in its power to cause speedy death. Therefore in its clinical application to human patients, it is well to be a little careful about the dose prescribed. I have made some experiments on animals to determine the poisonous effects of convallaria. The preparation used—the only reliable preparation now in market—was Parke, Davis & Co.'s fluid extract." The results of his experiments he gives briefly from his note-book, and are as follows:

"Ten drops under skin of the back of a four weeks kitten, were followed by tremblings, hurried respiration, staggering, convulsions and death in fifteen minutes. Heart found arrested in systole, both ventricles empty and firmly contracted. Fifteen drops under skin of four months healthy kitten. Stupefied in fifteen minutes, rapid respiration and circulation, then went into convulsions, first clonic, then tonic, and died with screams." Heart ventricles empty and firmly contracted. He adds in conclusion: "Convallaria is a cardiac poison which arrests the heart in systole like digitalis"; and then quotes from a private letter written him by Dr. H. L. Taylor: "I am afraid that incautious men may do damage to their patients and to the reputation of the drug by beginning with large doses in susceptible persons, unless the toxic power of the drug is known." Its power to destroy life thus seems to be great, and it is capable of causing death very suddenly. Physio-Medicalists will not be among the "incautious men" alluded to by Dr. Taylor.

Epilepsy.

SYNOPSIS OF A CLINICAL LECTURE BY PROF. W. H. COOK, M. D.

Mr. S., of Northern Illinois, came before the class of the *Physio-Medical Institute* for examination and advice, being under the professional care of Dr. Snyder. Age about 28; sanguine-nervous temperament, with full motor; a well-formed and hearty-

looking man, of superior organization; farmer.

He has had epileptic seizures since about three years old. The first attack was supposed to be due to indulgence in sugar and candies. The fits were a sense of choking and confusion; but he never fully lost consciousness or fell till about fourteen years old. About his fourteenth year they became much worse in frequency and severity, returning with great regularity about every two weeks. Will frequently have one severe attack, then from two to four slight ones within a couple of days, and then a respite for two weeks.

The attacks are very sudden. He is always conscious of their coming, having a sense of rushing fulness toward the head. His friends tell him he gets flushed in the face. The choking sensation is always the most marked one. Consciousness is not lost, but he hears everything and understands perfectly. After the hardest attacks he has a frontal headache, and feels drowsy and stupid. Eight years ago he had erysipelas, and then for three years had no signs of epilepsy. Is usually hearty and robust, works vigorously at usual farmer's work, eats well and does not think he eats too fast, takes about fifteen minutes to a full meal.

Such is the history of the case, which is a type of one class of epilepsies. The malady is among the opprobria of the profession, and its management is in general very unsatisfactory. In my opinion the chief reason for this is its being studied as a *single* condition, whereas it is a *compound* condition, and its components are not in all cases the same. No proper conception of its nature can ever be obtained, and no rational ground for treatment be formed, except as we study its several elements, giving to each its due weight and adapting medication to the varying requirements of these several elements. Any pathology or treatment of epileptic seizures that attempts to adopt some specific medication for all cases alike, must inevitably fail.

The malady in its associated aspects presents a marked disturbance of the nervous system. The balance, the harmony, the rhythm and the nerve functions are suddenly interrupted. The two great nerve centers — brain and spinal cord — are violently thrown from their equilibrium, the first resulting in disturbances of consciousness, and the second in disturbances of the motor system. At the same time the sympathetic nervous system becomes implicated, in some cases moderately and in others very strongly, but in every case to a degree that is not to be passed by as inconsiderable. Local impressions that provoke seizures are perhaps oftenest made first by way of sympathetic nerves; yet very many seizures are started by impressions upon sensory nerves, as from a burn, an old cicatrix, etc. With these will come in disturbances of the vaso-motor system, leading to cerebral pressure and flushed face, or to cerebral anæmia and pale face, according to the condition of these nerves.

I can but glance at the meaning of this loss of nervous equilibrium. It is not a condition of the spinal system alone, nor of the cerebral alone, nor of the sympathetic alone. It is a loss of balance between them all, involving each in different degrees. And they are each affected at various *parts* in different cases, as when the spinal system involves either the sensory or the motor columns; or is most unbalanced in the cord, the medulla, or at the peculiar axis formed through the fourth ventricle. So may the portions of the nerves be in various *states*, as when the sympathetic is too much relaxed while the sensory is hyper-sensitive, and *vice versa*. A little consideration of the anatomical relations and physiological offices of the several portions of the nervous apparatus in the human economy, will suffice to show the wide range in variety of conditions

that is possible in such disturbance of equilibrium.

Some epileptic cases have this harmony of co-operation between the nerve systems disturbed by accidents, as when concussion of the brain is followed by a small clot under the dura mater. Again it follows some cases of encephatitis; and powerful mental emotions, operative but for a single occasion, may so disturb the centers of pores and medulla as to be followed by an epileptiform seizure. A much larger class of cases develops in the wake of some peripheral disturbance, — as cicatrices or wounds on the part of the sensory nerves, and menstrual or other generative trouble by way of the sympathetic system.

But by far the greater number of all epileptic cases develop at those periods of life when the nervous tissue undergoes constitutional changes. One of these, and the principal one, is at the age of puberty, when the youth of both sexes begin the physical perfection of the generative system. Another is from about the seventh to the tenth year of life, when the second set of teeth has grown and the plumpness of dominant intestinal digestion begins to yield to the more solid flesh and bone that follow a stronger gastric digestion. At both these periods the general nervous system passes through changes of growth and function that are quite as pronounced as the changes in the other structures of the body. The nervous sensitiveness greatly increases. Nerve irritability is enhanced, nerve sympathies are intensified, but nerve *tone* may not keep place with the general growth. As a consequence, the three chief portions of the nervous system lose that harmony of sensibility and action which marks a perfect development. A discord ensues, the compensating balance between them vibrates. Such vibration may exhibit itself in mental peevishness, waywardness, or excitability, which passes away as development advances. Or it may amount to a disturbance sufficient to induce chorea, with its train of recurring irritabilities and jactitations. Or it may be sufficiently great to sweep through that larger and more grave oscillation, — epilepsy.

The failure in harmony of development at either of these periods may be so great as to render future remedy quite hopeless. It will be not merely a functional lack of co-ordination, but a structural lesion that can scarcely be changed and is liable to gradual increase. Such cases are extremely rare; and they are not likely to occur unless the seizures become more frequent and severe up to and for sometime after the date when osseous development is completed and the growth of the body may be said to end. This is at or near the twenty-fifth year. If the seizures slightly improve after puberty, and get lighter or farther apart from the twenty-first to the twenty-sixth year, the organic nerve changes are not liable to become extreme, and hope of distinct betterment may be entertained.

In all these disturbances and deficiencies, we notice that the direct seizure leads to functional irregularities that proceed from the pores and the medulla. The mental confusion or obliteration on the one side, the tonic followed by the clonic spasms on the other side, show the central agitation. But that center is to the nervous tissues as a whole, what the hub is to the wagon wheel, — and axis on which the body rests and the wheel turns, but not the part at which the motor force is applied in moving the whole. It receives impressions from all parts, and distributes them in the two great directions of brain and spine; but it by no means follows that this axis is the sole, nor even the very frequent, seat of the diseased condition which constitutes the epilepsy. That, as I have already said, must be searched for in the sympathetic, the spinal sensory, the

spinal motor, and the cerebral (or cerebellar) systems.

Epilepsy varies greatly in its sequelæ, according to the particular system of nerves that is most largely involved. When the cerebral are chiefly at fault, a seizure is liable to leave prolonged mental confusion and lethargy, and in time to be followed by decided mental decay. When the cerebral are affected only secondarily and slightly, the disturbance of mind at the attack is light and transient, and no form or degree of mental decay follows in the wake of the malady. If the cerebellar region is chiefly at fault, animality, bodily indulgences, and sensuality, grow upon the patient. If the origin of the discord is mainly in the sympathetic nerves, we see hystero-epilepsy marking the seizures, and hysteria tormenting the daily life apart from the seizures. And from these general landmarks which signal the line of nervous wrecking, there is a catalogue of less distinct sequelæ as long as the combined list of functional nervous aberrations.

Epileptic seizures may also be provoked immediately by anything that makes a sharp impression on any portion of the nervous system; that section of it which is briefly involved in a particular case being inordinately sensitive to such impressions, and acutely active in transmitting them to the pons and the medulla to provoke an explosion. On the one hand excitement, anxiety, study, or other mental exercise may lead to an attack. Again, the approach of the menstrual period, legitimate coitus, onanism or conception, may be the distinct provocation of a seizure. Yet again, over-eating, a fit of indigestion, a torpid liver, constipation, or other disturbance in the sensory nerves, may be the exciting cause. Not that the provocation of an explosion must always act on the nerves chiefly at fault, for the several classes of nerve tissue are too closely associated for that; but the most disturbed class will most readily feel the provocative which impresses that class, while strong disturbance touching the soundest class will reach the others and throw the unbalanced structures into a vibrating explosion.

With these views of the pathology of epilepsy, we can see that the usual lines of medical management are doomed to failure. These are based on the idea that the pons and medulla are the seat of the pathological trouble, instead of being mostly the central points of *reflecting* troubles that exist elsewhere, — as a mirror reflects the rays of light from a luminous body quite outside of itself. On *that* pathology was built the practice of seeking agencies to depress the hyper-sensitiveness at the pons and medulla, — a search that has culminated in the administration of bromide of potassium, and other bromides, which *do* allay this sensitiveness, but at the expense of spinal and cerebral integrity. It is well known that the bromides lead to spinal atrophy, and to cerebral anæmia that grows into mental decrepitude. Conditions like these are a thousand times worse than epilepsy itself; and then the bromides must fail to relieve any epilepsy not directly dependent upon local irritability of the pons and medulla, though it will not fail to damage the spinal cord by atrophy.

At this point the patient remarked that he had used bromide of potassium, which at first seemed to benefit him but soon failed entirely.

From the pathological views that I have presented, and which I have reached after many years of careful study on this subject, it follows that we must first discriminate the actual nerve condition of each individual patient; then classify our sanative nervines, according to the force of their action upon the sympathetic, the spinal sensory, the spinal motor, and cerebro-medullary classes of nerves; and select the

agents according to the conditions of the nerves in each separate case. At the same time due care must be given to correct any condition and to regulate any habit that may be provocative of an epileptic explosion. Manifestly, an epilepsy dependent on uterine conditions for seizures excited through the sympathetic nerves, is not to be managed by any such methods as one dependent on hepatic engorgement transmitted by way of the sensory nerves.

Applying these principles to the case before us, we conclude that Mr. S.'s epilepsy is in large part by way of the sympathetic nerves, and in perhaps equal part by the spinal sensory. The cerebral suffer but secondarily, and that through the brain engorgement resulting from the relaxed sympathetic and excited spinal motor nerves reaching the heart and arteries during a seizure. Such a case is most amenable to improvement, though its long continuance has fastened the seizures upon him as a species of habit. This is shown in the periodicity of return,—a periodicity not at all associated with malaria, for the gentleman has all his life been in a section of country wholly free from malarious influences. It is a great mistake in pathology to conclude that all periodical recurrences come from malaria. For most frequently they are dependent upon the sympathetic nervous system. Menstrual peroidicity is probably in great measure dependent upon that; the chill stage of an ague is itself a most pronounced manifestation of depressed sympathetic nerves, with miasmatic poison as the provocative; and I have quite commonly noticed that epilepsy which returns at regular intervals is due to this fact.

Mr. S. being here questioned, stated that his seizures were very regular in returning, coming at two weeks almost to the day; and if delayed, they were likely to return at the fourth, sixth, eighth, or other multiple of the second week. He knew of no especial provocative of the attacks, no change in kind or quantity of food, or work, or excitement.

I would prescribe for this case in this fashion:

℞

Fl. Extr. Celastrus scandens, ʒj
Fl. Extr. Viburnum opulus, ʒiv
Fl. Extr. Scutellaria, ʒij
Syr. Zingib., ad. ℥viij

M. Sig: A teaspoonful one hour after each meal. If any spinal sensitiveness were discovered after the next attack, would add to the above mixture ʒij fluid extract enpatorium purpureum.

To anticipate the periodicity alluded to, would combine equal parts of hydrastis, caulophyllum, and lobelia, preferably as an infusion. Beginning one day before the expected attack, would give a teaspoonful or more of this every hour, continuing it pretty well through the night, keeping this up so as to maintain a slight sense of nausea for three days and nights.

Would keep the liver moderately open by leptandra and a little verbena as needed; and direct that the food be eaten slowly, half an hour to every meal, and a cheerful frame of mind maintained while eating.

A Case of Uterine Hemorrhage.

BY PROF. W. F. TAIT, M. D.

On July 3, 1882, I was called some distance to see Mrs. H., age about 33, motor-vital temperament, mother of (I think) four children, always accustomed to Physio-Medical treatment. Suffering for three weeks from uterine hemorrhage, and had been treated homeopathically because there was no Physio-Medicalist within ten miles.

History:—Very moderate health during girlhood; a sensitive nervous organism; some digestive aberrations, gradually getting worse; a hard worker during the fifteen years of married life. Had evidently suffered from ovarian irritation; and of late years from considerable general irritation. No serious troubles connected with confinements.

The lady was much emaciated. Skin

jaundiced, quite cool, waxy to the touch, capillary circulation remarkably deficient. Pulse small, soft, compressible; heart impulse feeble. Voice weak, conversation tiresome to her. Bowels constipated, urine deficient, appetite almost nil, and digestion very poor. Fitful spells of somnolence with startings and frights during sleep, alternated with unpleasant wakefulness. Every attempt at movement provoked a farther flow of blood. Had occasionally fainted from weakness through hemorrhage, and also had spells of cold and clammy perspiration. General soreness of joints. Friends and physician had despaired of her life. The discharge was found to be mainly serous, the blood having very little coloring power. Patient very thirsty and drank copiously. Mind fairly active and quite anxious. All stimulation in food and medicine had been interdicted. Her physician felt confident of her recovery until about one week previous to my first visit.

Manifestly the great and protracted loss of blood had reduced the nourishing qualities of the circulation to the lowest ebb compatible with existence; and the ill-fed nerves and muscles were in that weakened and agitated state so aptly described as "excitability with loss of power." Living twenty miles away, and unable to visit her oftener than every second day, I was not willing to assume charge of the case until the full dangers of it were understood, and the promise given that I should be held blameless in the event of her death. These matters having been fully arranged with the husband, I took the case in hand.

Treatment:—Stimulating liniment (of the Physio-Medical Dispensatory) was rubbed over all the extremities every four hours; along the spine every two hours. An infusion of three parts trillium, two parts asclepias, one part capsicum, given in doses of a table-spoonful every two hours. Every two hours, alternate with the infusion, a syrup of dioscorea three parts, juniper and xanthoxylum each two parts, hydrastis one part, dose a teaspoonful. Twice each day a powder of one grain each quinia, chelonin, and triturated oil capsicum. To be kept *very* quiet; allowed very small quantities of cold water at long intervals; given beef tea, toast and coffee or tea at regular meal times. Moderate and cheery conversation enjoined; to be changed or turned in bed only when applying the liniment to the spine. To anticipate any fainting, I left a preparation of serpentaria and peppermint to be given as needed. Warm foot-baths with friction and jugs of hot water to keep the feet warm.

On the 5th found little change. Acidity of the stomach had come on, and the medicines and food were repeatedly ejected. Flow somewhat diminished, skin a little less bloodless, food tasted better, bowels had moved once, urine a trifle more abundant. Continued former treatment, except that the quinia powders were given in a teaspoonful syrup rhei et potassæ.

July 7th, marked improvement in many particulars. Flow diminished fully one-half, liver and bowels free, skin and kidneys acting better, acidity of stomach gone, food relished, less craving for water, more natural sleep, pulse fuller and firmer. Discontinued syrup rhei, gave but one of the quinia powders per day, continued the other parts of the first treatment. Success was now certain, but strict orders were given not to relax any point in the care.

That night I was attacked with acute peri-hepatitis, and was laid up for two weeks. Mrs. H. was during that time treated by my nephew, W. A. Tait, M. D., who made only some unimportant changes in my above treatment. She improved steadily. Three weeks passed before I saw her again, and then she presented fair capillary circulation, jaundiced look nearly gone, pulse nearly normal, heart action full and firm, bowels and kidneys doing well, appetite excellent, but digestion moderate.

I now put her upon tonic preparation of viburnum prunifolium with scutellaria, hydrastis and xanthoxylum. Equal parts of stimulating liniment and fluid extract verbascum on the spine and the painful joints twice a day. Diet to be of the most nourishing and digestible character; and great quietude to be maintained till after the next menstrual period, which was near at hand. All went well at that period, which was not profuse nor prolonged. Mrs. H. was soon after able to go about the room with the help of some person, then by the help of the cane alone, and in the fall moved to Iowa.

Galesburg.

Sympathy for the Sufferer.

If it could be more generally understood what an influence the mind and body exert over each other, there would be many more charitable allowances made for what are now too roughly censured as the moods and whims of the suffering ones. We are inclined to be cruel in judgment. People are so differently organized, surrounded and influenced that all should think calmly before offering to criticise, censure, or depreciate any of God's creatures.

Physical disorders will soon depress the mind; and a troubled mind will soon leave its mark, not only upon the body, but upon the countenance and its expressions:

"Those furrows, which the burning share
Of sorrow plows untimely there;
Scars of the lacerating mind,
Which the soul's war doth leave behind."

In sorrow our hearts are indeed "heavy"; for breathing is partially interrupted. We do not breathe fully and deeply enough to aerate the blood; and then the heart is not sufficiently relieved to be able to send the blood bounding through the arteries as Nature intended. And with such an improper circulation at the very centers, we may expect the slow on-creeping of many maladies.

If, while brooding over troubles, we humor the desire to live in seclusion; if we sit and court long hours of sadness, with the expression and attitude of despondency until we shrink back upon ourselves, the body will decrease in size,—for the brain is robbing it, leaving it deficient in nourishment, while the brain itself is too acutely active and busy in disturbing Nature's harmony. For this reason I do not agree with Fowler when he says: "Of what avail the talents, judgment, reason, or philosophy of the invalid?" Although sickness may draw a veil over the gayety of the heart, yet, in the solitude of our chamber, with no alternative but to think, our mind must be busy.

One writer says that "sickness scours us of our rust, increases our knowledge, puts us in mind of our mortality, and, while we drive heedlessly along, kindly pulls us by the ear and brings us to a proper sense of our duty." It is necessary for the suffering ones to have a little sweet with the bitter, and to feel that sickness has not robbed them of all; but that it has given them an opportunity to become more perfect, and to be better fitted for the life to come.

Mrs. Helen M. Fletcher.

Delta, O.

NOTES AND MISCELLANY.

ANIMALS AS DOCTORS.

M. G. Delaunay, in a recent communication to the Biological Society, observed that medicine, as practiced by animals, is thouroughly empirical, but that the same may be said of that practiced by inferior human races, or, in other words, by the majority of the human species. Animals instinctively choose such food as is best suited to them. M. Delaunay maintains that the human race also shows this instinct, and blames medical men for not paying sufficient respect to the likes and dislikes of the patients, which he believes to be a guide that may be depended on.

Women are more often hungry than men, and they do not like the same kinds of food; nevertheless, in asylums for aged poor, men and women are put on precisely the same regimen. Infants scarcely weaned are given a diet suitable to adults, meat and wine, which they dislike, and which disagree with them. M. Delaunay investigated this question in the different asylums of Paris, and ascertained that children do not like meat before they are about five years of age.

People who like salt, vinegar, etc., ought to be allowed to satisfy their tastes. Lorain always taught that with regard to food people's likings are the best guide. A large number of animals wash themselves and bathe, as elephants, stags, birds and ants. M. Delaunay lays down as a general rule that there is not any species of animals which voluntarily runs the risk of inhaling emanations arising from their own excrement. If we turn our attention to the question of reproduction we shall see that all mammals suckle their young, keep them clean, wean them at the proper time, and educate them; but these maternal instincts are frequently rudimentary in women of civilized nations. In fact, man may take a lesson in hygiene from the lower animals. Animals get rid of their parasites by using

dust, mud, clay, etc. Those suffering from fever restrict their diet, keep quiet, seek darkness and airy places, drink water and sometimes even plunge into it.

When a dog has lost its appetite it eats that species of grass known as dog's grass (*chiendent*), which acts as an emetic and purgative. Cats also eat grass. Sheep and cows, when ill, seek out certain herbs. When dogs are constipated they eat fatty substances, such as oil and butter, with avidity, until they are purged. The same thing is observed among horses. An animal suffering from chronic rheumatism always keeps as far as possible in the sun. The warrior ants have regularly organized ambulances. Latreille cut the antennæ of an ant and other ants came and covered the wounded part with a transparant fluid secreted from their mouths. If a chimpanzee be wounded it stops the bleeding by placing its hand on the wound or dressing it with leaves and grass.

When an animal has a wounded leg or arm hanging on, it completes the amputation by means of its teeth. A dog on being stung in the muzzle by a viper was observed to plunge its head repeatly for several days into running water. This animal eventually recovered. A sporting dog was run over by a carriage. During three weeks in winter it remained lying in a brook, where its food was taken to it; the animal recovered. A terrier dog hurt its right eye; it remained lying under a counter, avoiding light and heat, although habitually it kept close to the fire. It adopted a general treatment, rest and abstinence from food. The local treatment consisted in licking the upper surface of the paw, which it applied to the wounded eye, again licking the paw when it became dry. Cats also, when hurt, treat themselves by this simple method of continuous irrigation. M. Delaunay cites the case of a cat which remained for some time lying on the bank of a river; also that of another cat which had the singular fortitude to remain for forty-eight hours under a jet of cold water.

Animals suffering from traumatic fever treat themselves by the continued application of cold water, which M. Delaunay considers to be more certain than any of the other methods. In view of these interesting facts, we are, he thinks, forced to admit that hygiene and therapeutics, as practiced by animals, may, in the interests of psychology, be studied with advantage. He could go even further and say that veterinary medicine, and perhaps, human medicine, could gather from them some useful indications, precisely because they are prompted by instincts which are efficacious in the preservation or the restoration of health.—*Gaillard's Medical Journal.*

CURE FOR SNAKE BITE.

Mr. S. S. Bowmer says that the following is a certain cure for snake bite, viz.: Take the leaves from the cottonwood tree, make a strong tea of the same, use freely internally, and bathe the wounded part well. His dog was bitten by a very large copperhead, and after running some fifty yards fell, and to all appearances was in a dying condition. He took the dog up in his arms and carried it home, made a tea of the cottonwood leaves, bathed the part bitten, and poured about a quart of the liquid down the dog's throat. In about fifteen minutes the dog was up, running about, and in a half hour he was out in the woods hunting up another snake.—*Burnet Bulletin.*

POISONED BY MALE FERN.

J. B. Gill, M. D., Canterbury, writes to the *London* Lancet that, in 1856, he recommended a friend to make a trial of oil of male fern for tape worm. The patient was a thin, spare, pale man, aged about twenty-three. He took a drachm of the oil, and ten hours after took a dose of castor oil. The results were: "Diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, clonic spasms, and semi-collapse for about two days; nausea, a burning sensation at the epigastrium, and inability to stand erect for about a fortnight afterward. A very slow and tedious convalescence. At this date, twenty-six years since taking the dose, the bare mention of the drug causes him to shudder, and to declare that he has still the smell of it remaining in his nose."

—Mr. S. R. Dyke, of the New England Divorce Reform League, declares that, in the United States, six thousand women lose their lives every year in attempts to destroy their unborn children.

NEWS AND BREVITIES.

—New York City has thirty-four medical journals, four of which are published weekly at $5 a year.

—The wife of a prominent physician of Portsmouth, Va., died while taking chloroform before having some teeth extracted.

—In Port Jervis, N. Y., a family of five persons recently ate some raw pork, and all became poisoned with trichinæ. One of them, a child, died.

—Dr. G. M. Beard, who had obtained much celebrity by his writing on nervous diseases and the medical uses of electricity, died at his home in New York on January 9th, of pneumonia.

—A California doctor, who was bald-headed, tells that he used the bruised fresh leaves of eucalyptus for headache, and, lo! a new crop of hair has started to bud. We commend the practice to some of our smooth crowned friends in that State.

—Dr. Pollak stated at a St. Louis medical society that he had relieved himself of sciatica by an injection of cold water. Pray where were his morphine and hypodermic syringe; or does he reserve these dangerous implements for his patients?

—A very superior essay on the effects of alcohol in medicine, is published in the January number of the Virginia *Medical Monthly*, from the pen of Dr. J. F. Trinn. It alone is worth the thirty cents charged for the number. Send for it to L. B. Edwards, M. D., Richmond, Va.

—Speaking of a New York law reminds us that a Medical law has been suggested in Pennsylvania, with homeopaths and eclectics on a State Examining Board. One of our allopathic exchanges says: "Of course the regulars object, and so the proposition is killed." That is the story every time. Allopathy must sit in judgment on other people, but no one must test the qualifications of their men. If they can not have it all their own way, then "they won't play." They must have power to license every ignoramus of their own school, and to refuse licenses to better men who have opinions of their own. It is the *fee*, and not the welfare of the people, that troubles such men.

—Dr. Forbes, Demonstrator of Anatomy in Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, was arrested last fall on the charge of complicity with two grave robbers. Both the resurrectionists were convicted. Now the doctor has had his trial, and has been acquitted honorably.

—Philanthropic old lady: "So you have got twins at your house, Johnnie." "Yes'm, two of 'm." "What have you named them?" "Thunder and Lightning, ma'am." "Why, what very singular names!" "Yes'm, that's what pa called 'm as soon as he heard they were in the house."

—An English lady had been deaf for some years, and consulted Dr. E. Haughton. At the bottom of the meatus in the right ear, he found a black object imbedded in clotted blood, wax, and cotton wool. With difficulty he got it out, it proved to be a carpet tack with the point inward, and now the lady hears perfectly.

—Many noble men give largely to benevolent purposes while living, and leave bequests of the same kind. Among these was the late Hon. E. D. Morgan, of New York. He gave generously to the Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital, and left $50,000 to the Presbyterian Hospital, and $50,000 to the Hospital for Ruptured and Crippled.

—New York is discussing a medical law that will take away from colleges the power to issue diplomas. It proposes to license practitioners by a State Examining Board. Each school in medicine may organize a State Society, and have its own Examining Board. Such Boards would be liable to great laxity, and open to great opportunities for corruption. We stand to our proposition of ten years ago: Have *one* State Board of Examiners, let each school be represented in it equally, let the Examiner of each school decide in questions peculiar to his school, let the joint Board decide on questions where all the schools agree. This plan would compel a high education, wipe out poor colleges of all schools, and protect the public most effectually. We have never yet heard of an old-school doctor who would consent to this just plan. Our neighbors want the law to shield them and give them extra privileges.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

Dr. E. S. Gaillard, New York, has combined his *American Weekly* and *Medical Monthly*, published weekly. He calls it *Gaillard's Medical Journal*, and it is one of most vigorous and independent old-school periodicals in the land, and the Doctor's strong individuality can be felt on every page. $5.00 a year.

The *Century Magazine* now has three serial stories of the best class running through its numbers; beside which each issue has a full share of short tales, historical and scientific articles, editorials, reviews, bric-a-brac, etc. Its illustrations are numerous, and always of the highest excellence. It holds its place as one of the finest literary periodicals of the world. Published by The Century Co., New York. $4.00 a year.

D. Appleton & Co., New York, have recently issued a *Dictionary of Medicine*, under the editorship of Richard Quain, M. D., England. It includes all the maladies commonly belonging to works on practical medicine, together with most surgical diseases, the diseases of women and children, and hygiene. While arranged as a dictionary, its scope is almost a cyclopœdia. The articles are prepared by about one hundred and fifty different writers, among the most eminent of the profession in England, each especially qualified for his particular department. Among them we notice Drs. Wm. Aiken, R. Barnes, J. H. Bennet, Brown-Sequard, W. B. Carpenter, J. Mathews Duncan, S. Fenwick, Sir Wm. Jenner, J. McPherson, Sir J. Paget, F. T. Roberts, Sir H. Thompson, and others of equal learning. Such an array of talent is rarely offered in a single volume; and the writers have been remarkably skillful in presenting the essential features of every topic, and lopping off the redundancies. The work must command the attention of the general practitioner, who will find in it a rich treasure of imformation and suggestion opened to him. It is a bulky volume of more than 1800 large double-column pages, in fine type and paper, with numerous illustrations. It is only sold by subscription, $8.00

The *Art Magazine*, published in London and New York by Cassell, Petter & Galpin, not merely holds to its high standard, but improves. Its engravings are always very superior, and its themes admirably chosen, while its letter-press is of a high order. It is indeed a model magazine of the kind, hence its many excellencies bring it increasing success where other and less judicious art ventures have entirely failed. Every lover of the beautiful and useful in art will prize this elegant monthly. $3.50 a year.

The *Standard Medical Library* of Messrs. Wm. Wood & Co., New York, has proven a very popular undertaking for the past three years. The series for 1883 promises to be still better than the past, embracing a yet higher class of works than before. One volume per month is published, the subscription being $18.00 for the year. The volumes for January and February embrace the *Manual of Gynecology* by Drs. D. B. Hart and A. H. Barbour, Scotland. This is a really admirable work, fresh, clear and full of sound practical sense. It will prove one of the most acceptable treatise on gynecology that has been offered to the American profession; and its illustrations have the advantage of not being the old-time cuts used in most such books for the last quarter of a century. We especially commend this Library series for 1883, descriptive circulars of which may be had from the publishers, Lafayette Place, New York.

BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

INDEX OF THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE. By Wesley M. Carpenter, M. D. From Wm. Wood & Co., New York; Robert Clarke & Co., Cincinnati. Tucks, $2.50. Interleaved, $3.50.

THE PATHOLOGY AND TREATMENT OF DISEASES OF THE OVARIES. By Lawson Tait, F. R. C. S. From Wm. Wood & Co., New York; Robert Clarke & Co., Cincinnati. Fourth and enlarged edition. Cloth, illustrated $2.50.

THE DISPENSATORY OF THE UNITED STATES. Fifteenth edition, thoroughly revised and largely rewritten; with illustrations. By Professors H. C. Wood, J. P. Remington and S. S. Sadtler. J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia; Robert Clarke & Co., Cincinnati. $8.00.

TRANSACTIONS of the American Ophthalmological Society. Eighteenth Annual Meeting, Lake George, 1882.

TRANSACTIONS of the Medical Association of the State of Missouri. Twenty-Fifth Annual Session. Hannibal, 1882.

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In Special Pathology gives the clinical history, pathology, special diagnosis and treatment (by the new and superior methods of this School) of all the various diseases incident to the Nose, Mouth, Pharynx, Larynx, Trachea, Bronchi, Lungs, Pleuræ, Heart, Arteries, Veins, Œsophagus, Stomach, and Bowels.

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It presents the usual methods of procedure in operations, as in Dislocation, Fractures, Amputation, Resections, Ligation, Lithotomy, Bandaging, etc. Reduction by Manipulation, which originated with this school, is fully described.

WOMAN'S BOOK OF HEALTH. - - - - - - - - - - - - - **$2.00**

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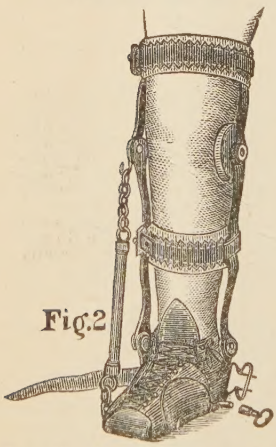

Fig. 2

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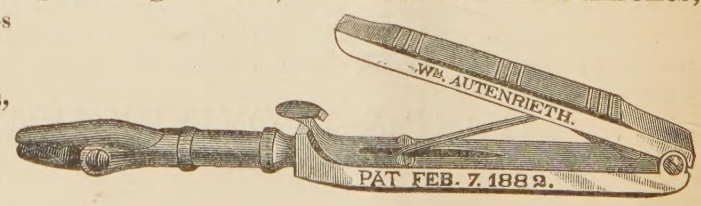

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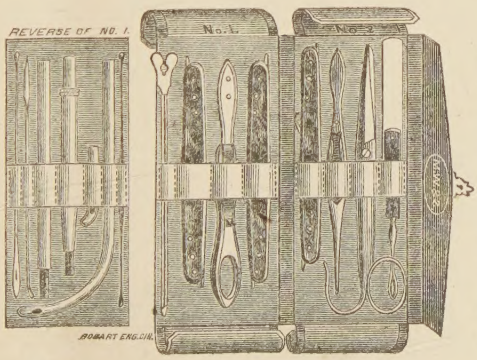

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